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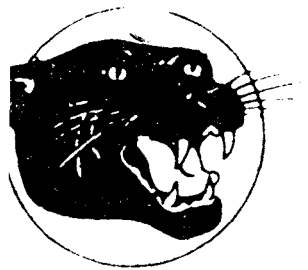
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Two Eastern Illinois University football players from Detroit, junior wide receiver ROY BANKS (Detroit, MI-King) and sophomore running back DUWAYNE PITTS (Detroit, MI-MacKenzie), each received All-Gateway Conference honors recently in a vote by league coaches.

Eastern Illinois University finished 6-5 for its eighth straight winning season.

Banks caught 59 passes for 817 yards and a team high nine TD receptions. He missed the final game of the year with a broken collarbone.

He currently is tied with Scott McGhee for the EIU career TD pass reception record of 27. Banks career totals are 131 catches for 2163 yards, 16.5 yards p/catch, and 27 TDs.

He needs just 35 catches and 360 yards to set career records of 165 catches and 2164 yards at EIU.

Pitts rushed for 968 yards, 88.0 p/game, and caught a team and league high 65 passes for 458 yards. His 130 yards p/game all-purpose running placed him 19th in NCAA I-AA stats.

His 65 pass receptions set an EIU record for most by a running back, and he also set a career mark in that category with 89.

Three times this year he topped 100 yards rushing in a single game with a high of 169 vs. Saginaw Valley.

Pitts was also selected the team's Most Valuable Player on offense.

"Both of these young men had outstanding seasons," said head coach Al Molde. "Their stats were incredible considering that Banks saw at least double coverage in most games and, operating out of a single back formation, we could not offer much deception in regard to using DuWayne."